

## “Different”

### Part 2

#### Luke 6:32-38

April 3, 2022

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**35 "But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He Himself is kind to ungrateful and evil men.**

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**3 illustrations that go beyond the world:**

#1 – Loving others.

"if"- 1<sup>st</sup> class condition –

"since you love others who love you . . ."

"credit" – grace. "What grace is that?" That's no big deal.

"the sinners" – unbelievers – outside the kingdom –the world.

#### Col 4:6

**6** Let your speech always be with grace, as though seasoned with salt, so that you will know how you should respond to each person.

- This is the way the world acts, therefore you are no better than the world. (reciprocal, self-serving love)

#### Matt 5:43-44

**43 "You have heard that it was said, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR and hate your enemy.'**

**44 "But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,**

- Are you living on a higher level than the world?
- Does your life demonstrate the grace of loving those who hate you?

**33 "If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> illustration (more specific): Doing good to others.**

- Again the world is reciprocal, self-serving in doing good. What do I get out of it?

- Unbelievers do the same. No big deal.

- Are you living on a different level than the world?

- Does your life demonstrate the grace of doing good for those who hate you?

- This will get you noticed.

- The world asks, "Are you like one of us, or are you different from us?"

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**3<sup>rd</sup> Illustration (even more specific): Lending to others.**

- The world expects to receive back what they borrow or lend to someone. Self-serving.

- So you lend to obligate, you create an obligation.

- "Here I'll lend it to you, but I expect it back."

- **Note:** To be clear, the Bible says we are to pay our debts.

- But self-serving lending does not demonstrate grace.

- "That's fine, you keep it, I don't expect it back."

- How is your lending? Is it with grace?

- Do you lend differently than the world does?

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- Jesus summarizes — 'LIVE YOUR LIFE DIFFERENTLY'

- No hidden motives, no ulterior motives. You do these things because you want to. You want men and women to see what God is like — gracious. That will help them understand the gospel. Your life is a gospel tract.

- **Results in 2 things:**

1. Your reward will be great. Now and for eternity.

2. You will be seen as one who acts like God. How does God act? He is "kind to ungrateful and evil men." You bear His nature and His name.

**36 "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful."**

**"mercy"** — not giving someone what they deserve.

- Vss. 32-35 commands us to show grace.

- This verse commands us to show mercy.

- What we must remember: God's mercy toward us.

**Titus 3:3,4,5a**

3 For we also once were foolish ourselves, disobedient, deceived, enslaved to various lusts and pleasures, spending our life in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another.

4 But when the kindness of God our Savior and His love for mankind appeared, 5 He saved us,

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### Matt 7:1-5

- 1 "Do not judge so that you will not be judged.
- 2 "For in the way you judge, you will be judged; and by your standard of measure, it will be measured to you.
- 3 "Why do you look at the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye?
- 4 "Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' and behold, the log is in your own eye?
- 5 "You **hypocrite**, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye.
- \* Don't go judging small faults when you have major ones in your own life.
- Deal with your own faults first then you will see clearly.

### 37 "Do not judge, and you will not be judged; and do not condemn, and you will not be condemned; pardon, and you will be pardoned.

- These are all acts that will take place on judgment day.
- One of the most misapplied verses.

### 37 "Do not judge, and you will not be judged; and do not condemn, and you will not be condemned; pardon, and you will be pardoned.

"judge" – κρίνω – to be critical, to distinguish, to separate, to discriminate to divide.

#### • But Scripture tells us that we are to judge:

- Between truth and error.
  - Between right and wrong.
  - Between true teachers and false teachers.
  - Those who are in sin, who are within the Church, and we are to remove them. (1 Cor 5)
  - In courts of law. (Rom. 13)
- Here we are talking about small things in relationships where we are quick to judge and condemn.
- Looking for hidden motives.
  - Faults.
  - Lifestyle.
  - Trivia.

### 37 "Do not judge, and you will not be judged; and do not condemn, and you will not be condemned; pardon, and you will be pardoned.

- "condemn" – καταδικάζω – to pronounce judgment, to pass sentence. To damn. It results from judging.
- You are not their final judge. That will be God's job.
  - Nor are we to condemn. You have no right to damn anything or anyone.
  - **Note:** If we do not judge, or condemn, men will not do to us likewise.
  - Instead we are to forgive them. (Jesus and Stephen)
  - When we forgive, others will forgive us.
  - You will ratchet down their hostility.
  - In relationships with others, over possible confrontational issues, people are either throttling up or throttling back.

### Prov 15:1

- 1 A gentle answer turns away wrath,  
But a harsh word stirs up anger.

"Don't be too hard on the person who sins,  
For the yardstick you lay on another  
May someday be used as a measure for you;  
Oh, be gracious and judge not, my brother!"

- Henry Bosch



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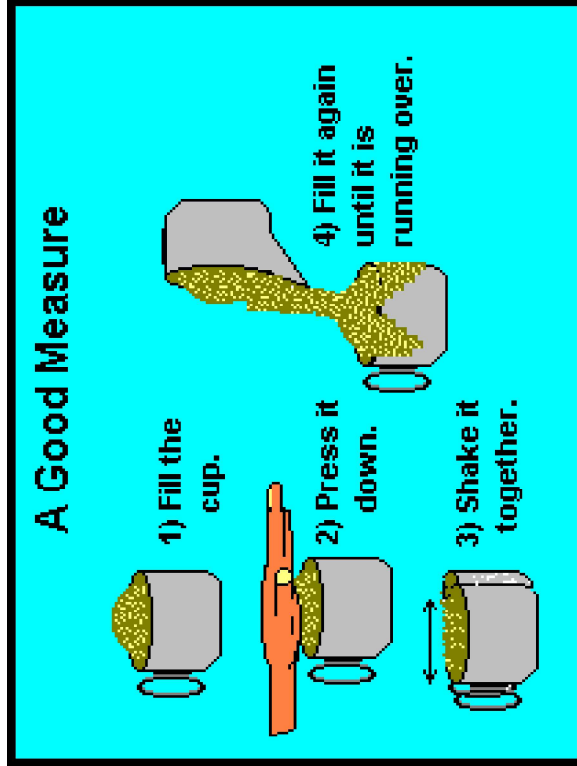
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### Deut 15:10

10 "You shall generously give to him, and your heart shall not be grieved when you give to him, because for this thing the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in all your undertakings.

38 "Give, and it will be given to you. They will pour into your lap a good measure — pressed down, shaken together, and running over. For by your standard of measure it will be measured to you in return."

- Here is the answer to the concern over lending and receiving nothing back.
- When you give, it will be given back.
- Jesus does not want you to be concerned when you give. Just give.
- You will be given back in 2 ways:
  1. By those whom you gave to.
  2. By God.
- How much will you get back? More than you can handle.
- Standard of measure - a vessel, weight, or rule which is used as the tool for measuring.



What do I get back? (look at the context)

- "Loving others"
- "Doing good to others"
- "Lending to others"
- "Not judging"
- "Not condemning"
- "Forgiving"

Here is what you get back -

- Love from others
- Good from others
- That which was borrowed to others
- Not being judged by others
- Not being condemned by others
- Forgiven by others

Note: This is not talking about giving money to Church or missions as some try to apply it to raise money. This is talking about intangible things. It is those things that we will be blessed to overflowing with.

### **Application**

1. It is the unexpected that is the first step in evangelism. An unexpected kind word of thankfulness, an unexpected act of shoveling a sidewalk, an unexpected giving of a meal.
2. The Christian life is not one of taking but one of giving over and above the norms of this world.
3. A grace-filled life is a God-filled life.
4. A life lived different from this world will bless you beyond measure.